



MASDAR AND EDF SA TO EXPLORE POWER SECTOR COLLABORATION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; 15 January 2018 – Masdar, Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company, has announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to discuss collaborating with EDF SA – the parent company of the EDF Group – in the power sectors of countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

The agreement was signed by Bader Al Lamki, Masdar’s Executive Director for Clean Energy, and Valerie Levkov, Senior Vice President, Africa and Middle East, EDF SA. Also present were Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Masdar, and Dominique Minière, EDF Group Senior Executive Vice President, Nuclear and Thermal.

The partnership will explore development opportunities within the framework of both companies’ existing off-grid investments in sub-Saharan Africa. It will also evaluate new projects and models for off-grid energy solutions in that region.

Sub-Saharan Africa has limited access to electricity. According to the World Bank, approximately 600 million people live without a reliable energy source. Through today’s agreement, Masdar and EDF SA hope to expand their portfolio in Africa while promoting local socio-economic development.

“Masdar is committed to achieving commercially viable, sustainable access to energy,” said Bader Al Lamki, Masdar’s Executive Director for Clean Energy. “We look forward to collaborating with EDF SA to unlock opportunities to address the acute need for modern energy services in sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in rural communities.”

Masdar’s current sub-Saharan developments include the 15MW Sheikh Zayed Solar Power Plant and eight rural solar energy projects with a capacity of 16.6MW in Mauritania. The company’s extensive off-grid portfolio also includes solar, wind, solar-powered water treatment projects, battery storage and geothermal projects in the Caribbean and the Pacific Islands.

“Our in-depth knowledge of the region is key to offering the most adapted energy solutions,” said Valérie Levkov, Senior Vice President, Africa and Middle East, EDF SA. “EDF is convinced that the cooperation with Masdar will enhance the development of essential energy projects for sub-Saharan Africa, combining electrification and low-carbon growth.”

The MoU strengthens the cooperation between EDF and Masdar, which was initiated in 2017 when the EDF group joined the Masdar-led consortium developing the 800 megawatt (MW) third phase of the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park in Dubai. The agreement was supplemented by an MoU in November aimed at ensuring cooperation in the development and financing of the solar project.



The EDF group has been present in Africa for over 50 years through a wide range of activities. EDF has been accelerating its development in clean energy projects, in particular in rural and peri-urban electrification projects. For example, EDF has developed off-grid activities in the Côte d'Ivoire, providing solar kits with pay-as-you-go systems for households, and has developed a 46 MW power plant generating electricity from agriculture residue biomass (Biovea – Côte d'Ivoire), the biggest of its kind in Africa.

Masdar is a leading developer and operator of utility-scale, grid-tied projects, small-scale applications that provide energy access to communities away from the electricity grid, and carbon abatement projects. Since 2006, Masdar has invested in renewable energy projects with a combined value of US\$8.5 billion. The company's share of this investment equates to US\$2.7 billion.

Masdar will be highlighting its clean energy projects at this year's Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week, which is taking place on 13-20 January 2018.

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About Masdar

Masdar is Abu Dhabi's renewable energy company which works to advance the development, commercialisation and deployment of clean energy technologies and solutions. The company serves as a link between today's fossil fuel economy and the energy economy of the future. Wholly owned by the Mubadala Investment Company, the strategic investment company of the Government of Abu Dhabi, Masdar is dedicated to the United Arab Emirates' long-term vision for the future of energy and water.

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About EDF SA

The EDF Group, a leading participant in energy transition, is an integrated energy company, working across the board of the specialisations: generation, transmission, distribution, trading, power sales and energy services. World leader in the low carbon energy sector, the Group has developed a diversified generation mix based on nuclear power, hydropower, new renewable energies and fossil fuel power. The Group contributes to energy supply and provision of services to around 37.1 million customers, including 26.2 million in France. In 2016, it generated consolidated turnover of 71 billion Euros. EDF is a company listed on the Paris Stock Exchange.

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